

ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

Medical Officer of Health

ALONG WITH THE

Report of the Sanitary Inspector,

FOR THE

HEBDEN BRIDGE

URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL,

BY


FRANCIS J. DOWDALL,

M.B., B.Ch., B.A.O.

Presented May, 1921.

HEBDEN BRIDGE :

Kershaw & Ashworth, Printers, "Times" Office.



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Hebden Bridge Urban District Council.

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE Medical Officer of Health.

*To the Chairman and Members of the Hebden Bridge
Urban District Council.*

Gentlemen,—

I have the honour to report on the health of the Hebden Bridge Urban District for the year 1920.

Hebden Bridge is a town occupying a small area of 476 acres, with narrow valleys surrounded by steep hills, and having some roads with gradients of 1 in 6. The lowest road level is about 320 feet and the highest about 710 feet above sea level. The Rivers Calder and Hebden flow through the town. The inhabitants belong principally to the working classes, the chief industry of the district being the wholesale clothing trade.

The Royal Halifax Infirmary offers advantages for the treatment of medical and surgical cases, and situated not far from Hebden Bridge are the Fielden and Sourhall Infectious Diseases

Joint Hospitals. There is very excellent work done through the District Nursing Institution by two Nurses, one of whom is fully trained in maternity work and is open for engagements to attend women in childbirth, either with or without a doctor, at a small fixed charge. The services of both these Nurses are highly appreciated and much requisitioned throughout the district.

The amount of Poor-Law Relief for the year ending 1920 was £387 6s. 7d.

The 1911 Census showed the district to have a population of 7,170. The estimated civilian population for 1920 is 6751, an increase of 259 on the civilian population of 1919, but a decrease of 419 since the Census of 1911.

VITAL STATISTICS.

The estimated civil population, as furnished to me by the Ministry of Health for calculating the birth-rate and the death-rate, is 6751, an increase of 259 on the figure given as an estimate of the civil population last year. It excludes all non-civilians. The rates for the year are as follows, and for purposes of comparison I append similar figures for the years 1916, 1917, 1918, 1919, and those of England and Wales for 1920:—

						England and Wales.
	1920	1919	1918	1917	1916	1920
Birth Rate	16.5	11.5	9.0	10.0	10.9	25.4
Death Rate	13.4	14.1	19.0	15.0	15.0	12.4
Infant Mortality Rate ...	80.3	51.3	112.9	69.4	63.3	80.0
Zymotic Death Rate	Nil	Nil	.1	Nil	1.2	
Tuberculous „	1.3	1.4	1.9	2.2	1.5	
Respiratory „	1.3	1.6	2.9	2.7	1.5	
Cancer „	1.7	.8	1.8	1.2	1.6	

BIRTHS.

The total number of births registered was 112 (62 males and 50 females), yielding a rate of 16.5 per 1,000. Three of these births were illegitimate. In the six preceding years the number of births was 78, 62, 72, 79, 88, 104. The birth-rate for England and Wales for 1920 was 25.4.

DEATHS.

The deaths recorded number 91 (44 males and 47 females), yielding a rate of 13.4 per 1,000. In the six preceding years the number of deaths was 92, 116, 93, 100, 107 and 78. The death-rate for England and Wales for 1920 was 12.4. The following is a list of the causes of death:—

	Males.	Females.
Organic Heart Disease	8	10
Cancer... ..	4	8
Influenza	1	5
Pulmonary Tuberculosis	6	1
Other Tuberculous Diseases	1	1
Pneumonia... ..	5	2
Bronchitis	2	0
Rheumatic Fever	1	1
Meningitis	1	0
Appendicitis	0	1
Cirrhosis of the Liver... ..	1	0
Nephritis	1	2
Parturition... ..	0	1
Congenital Debility	2	0
Violence	2	0
Other Defined Diseases	9	15

The causes as tabulated differ little from those of other years, except to show that the deaths from Influenza are considerably reduced and the cases which did occur were mainly sporadic last year.

INFANTILE MORTALITY.

Nine deaths took place in infants under one year of age, giving an unfortunately high infant mortality rate of 80.3 per 1,000. Two died from congenital debility, three broncho-pneumonia, one asphyxia pallida, two convulsions, and two premature births.

WATER SUPPLY.

Nearly the whole district is supplied with Halifax Corporation water. It is of a soft, peaty character, and to rectify this the Council have Filter Beds at Hollin Hall, 1½ miles distant, where it is subjected to filtration through limestone and river sand. Those living in houses which are connected up with the public water

supply experience no shortage. Owing to the unusually wet summer of last year people who receive their water from private supplies were little, if any, inconvenienced, but experience in the past has shown that in a dry season much inconvenience was experienced, and therefore some arrangement should, if possible, be come to, before the summer of 1921 commences, whereby those families can be temporarily supplied with the town's water.

DRAINAGE AND SEWERAGE.

About 21 years ago a general scheme of sewerage throughout the town was carried out. The sewage is treated at Redacre, which is situated in the adjoining urban district of Mytholmroyd, and the effluent from the works is of a satisfactory nature. There were no developments during 1920.

SCAVENGING.

Scavenging is undertaken throughout the district, and is quite satisfactory and adequate. Originally pail closets were general in the town, but now the water-carriage system is generally in vogue. There are now only 73 pail closets, as compared with 1636 water closets (1618 water closets and 18 waste w.c.'s). Refuse is disposed of at the Tip, and it is estimated that 2737 loads, as against 1980 loads for the previous year, were removed at a cost of £850, as against £600 for the previous year. Lately about 100 movable ash-bins with proper coverings have been brought into use.

NUISANCE INSPECTION.

During the year 95 inspections have been made; 16 informal notices were served and 15 complied with. Two Statutory Notices were served and one complied with. Two nuisances were reported, and on request one was abated.

COMMON LODGING-HOUSES.

There are now no common lodging-houses in the district.

CANAL BOATS.

Canal boats have been inspected on five occasions, and no irregularity has been found.

OFFENSIVE TRADES.

There is one offensive trade in the district, viz., tripe dressing. This has been twice inspected and found satisfactory.

SCHOOLS.

My report on the sanitary condition and water supply of the various schools in the district is satisfactory. The responsibility for the general health of the children rests with the schools' medical officer, Dr. Kaye, of Wakefield, and the medical inspectors acting under him. As in previous years, the children have been regularly examined, and without doubt much good has resulted from the discoveries of physical defects and the subsequent action taken. I take this opportunity of urging the necessity for the appointment of a School Dentist, either whole time or part time. The training of children in the schools to use daily a tooth-brush would undoubtedly create in their minds the very necessary impression of the importance of the care of their teeth. It is deplorable to see so many of our children with such unhealthy decayed teeth, and to find such a large percentage of young adults in this district either without teeth altogether or with artificial ones necessarily worn because of the neglect of teeth in their earlier days. With this all-important care and attention to the teeth of our school-going children, we would rapidly see the general standard of health raised, not alone in the schools but afterwards in our adult community. There is one other suggestion I should like to make here, viz., the necessity for exemption from school of children suffering from contagious skin diseases such as ringworm, scabies, and impetigo, as only by this means can we reasonably hope to prevent much unnecessary spread of these common diseases amongst children.

School attendance has throughout the year been good.

FOOD.

The milk supply is mainly obtained from the adjoining Rural District of Todmorden. There is every reason to believe that the supply is of an exceptionally good character. The source and conditions of the milk supply being so near at hand, and open always to public inspection, render it almost impossible for tuberculous cattle to be kept for any length of time. Three samples of milk were taken for analysis and none found to be adulterated.

The regulations under the Dairies, Cowsheds, and Milkshops Order were put into force in November, 1889. There is good reason to believe that no unsound food is sold in the district, and the sanitary conditions of the various premises where food is stored or exposed for sale are quite satisfactory. No action has been taken under the Sale of Food and Drugs Act.

BAKEHOUSES.

These have been visited periodically by your Inspector and myself. The cleanliness of the Bakehouses is decidedly above the average.

INSPECTION OF FACTORIES AND WORKSHOPS.

Inspections have been carried out systematically. Some cases of smoke nuisance were observed, but were abated after notice had been given.

HOUSING.

There are 1847 houses in the district, 1774 of which are of the artisan type. Assuming the estimated population, 6751, to be correct, there would appear to have been a gradual falling-off in the number of occupants per house for many years. In the 1901 census the average number of occupants per house was 4.1; in the 1911 census, 3.8; in 1920, 3.6 (estimated). No houses have been erected during the year. As in most other districts, there is a shortage of houses, and the Council contemplate the erection of 200 houses to remedy this. In my opinion the proposal of the Council to erect these houses is very essential in the interests of the health and general welfare of the district. There are several houses in the district with minor defects, but the standard of dwellings for the artisan compares very favourably with that of other districts.

INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

The following notifications were received by me during the year: Scarlet Fever 13 (10 treated at hospital), 2 Diphtheria (one treated at hospital), Pneumonia 7, Ophthalmia Neonatorum 2, Erysipelas 2, Enteric 1, Malaria 1, Dysentery 1, Pulmonary Tuberculosis 10, other forms Tuberculosis 2; five of the Pulmonary Tuberculosis cases notified have since died, and two are receiving sanatorium treatment. The two non-pulmonary cases are also receiving institutional treatment.

From perusal of these figures it is evident that there has been very little infectious disease in the district, and no death has been recorded from any of the seven principal zymotic diseases. There has been an increase in the cases of pulmonary tuberculosis notified during the year; the death-rate from same, though still high, is lower than last year. Diphtheria anti-toxin has been supplied by the Council free of charge on application by any medical practitioner requiring it. There are Tuberculosis Dispensaries held twice weekly at Sowerby Bridge and Todmorden; these are well attended by most of the tubercular patients in this district, but it would be a welcome innovation if we should have a treatment centre established in Hebden Bridge itself, owing to the distance the present available Dispensaries are from the patients' homes. Patients attending Sowerby Bridge and Todmorden Dispensaries receive medicines, advice, spitting flasks, etc., free of charge, and are, until admission to a sanatorium, under the care of the Tuberculosis Officer, Dr. G. Liddle. There is unfortunately, at the present time, a seemingly unavoidable delay in getting patients admitted to a sanatorium, but our County Medical Officer, Dr. Kaye, is hoping to be soon able to remedy this.

Thirty-four vaccinations have been performed during the year in the Urban and Rural Districts, yielding the somewhat small figure of 33 per cent. roughly. There were no vaccinations performed by the Medical Officer of Health under the Public Health (Smallpox Prevention) Regulations 1917.

MATERNITY AND CHILD WELFARE.

A Maternity and Child Welfare Centre has been established in Hebden Bridge towards the latter end of the year. The School Clinic is held on Tuesday and Friday mornings from 9 to 12 a.m., and is attended by the School Nurse. There is also a Clinic on Tuesday afternoons, from 2 to 4 p.m., which is attended by the School Doctor, who treats the school children and mothers and babies. It is satisfactory to know that the attendance is good, and already much valuable work has been done in this Centre, which is run under the auspices of the Public Health Department at Wakefield. A Health Visitor is appointed by the County Council, who visits all houses where a birth has taken place, gives advice where required, and generally keeps the child under observation for the first twelve months of his or her life.

WEATHER REPORT.

	1920	1919	1918
Mean Temperature	46.96	45.06	47.09
Rainfall	53.26	46.36	54.82

I am, Mr. Chairman and Gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,

FRANCIS J. DOWDALL, M.B., B.Ch., B.A.O.,
MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH.

TABLE C, 1920.

HEBDEN BRIDGE URBAN SANITARY DISTRICT.

Water Supply—

Any developments during 1920?—No.

Any insufficiency, and where?—Public supply satisfactory; danger of scarcity, if season is very dry, for those houses receiving supply from private source.

Any action in regard to unsatisfactory quality, and where?—No.

Drainage and Sewerage—

Any developments during 1920?—No.

Developments still needed as to (a) Want of sewers—No; (b) Improvement of defective sewers—No.

Any inadequacy of Sewage Disposal Works or complaints as to smells?—No.

Are there any sink wastes still needing disconnection?—Yes.

Closet Accommodation—

Number of Privies with open middens—Nil.

Number of Pail or Tub Closets—73.

Number of Privies with covered middens—4.

Number of Water Closets—1628. Waste-water Closets—18.

Number of Privies re-constructed during 1920: (a) As w.c.'s—6; (b) Other—nil.

Number of additional Closets provided for old property in 1920: (a) W.c.'s—3 houses, 1 factory; (b) Other—nil.

Number of Closets constructed in 1920 for new houses: (a) W.c.'s—nil; (b) Other—nil.

Scavenging—

Any change during 1920?—No.

Performed by (a) Council?—Yes. (b) Contractor?—No.

How is refuse disposed of? Number of loads to (a) Destructor—nil; (b) Tips—2737; (c) Farmers—nil. Total annual cost—£850.

Is there any inadequacy, and where?—No.

Any utilization or salvage of waste material?—No.

Nuisance Inspections—

Total number of inspections made in 1920—95.

Informal notices served—16. Complied with—15.

Statutory notices served—2. Complied with—1.

Total number of nuisances in hand at close of 1919—nil; at close of 1920—1.

Total number of nuisances reported during 1920—2; abated during 1920—1.

Total number of summonses or other legal proceedings—Nil.

Regulated Buildings, Trades, &c.	No. in District.	No. on Register.	Total No. of Inspections Made.	General Condition:	Legal Pro- ceedings (if any).
Common Lodging Houses	Nil	...	...	...	...
Houses let in Lodgings...	Nil	...	...	...	...
Canal Boats .....	...	...	5	...Satisfactory	..
Knacker Yards... ..	Nil	...	...	..	...
Tents, Vans and Sheds ...	Nil	...	...	..	...
Offensive Trades	1	...	1	...	2 ..Satisfactory...
(Tripe Dressing).					

Have the Council declared any other processes to be offensive trades, e.g., fish-frying, maggot-breeding, etc.?—No.

Schools—

Schools visited by Medical Officer of Health?—No visits necessary in 1920.

Action taken—nil. Schools closed—nil.

Milk Supply—

Number of samples taken by Officers of S.A. for analysis under Food and Drugs Acts—3. Number adulterated—nil.

Number of samples taken by Officers of S.A. for bacteriological examination—Nil.

What arrangement for veterinary inspection of dairy cows?—Nil.

Any instance of disease attributed to milk in 1920?—No.

Number of cowkeepers in district—9. Number registered—9.

Number of Milk Sellers who are also Cowkeepers—9. Number who are purveyors only—Nil. Total number registered—9.

Total number of Cowsheds—9. Number of inspections in 1920—9. General condition—Fair.

Approximate number of Milch Cows in district—60. Any insufficiency in Milk Supply?—No.

Legal proceedings under D.C.M. Orders—Nil.

Any inspection or other action by districts to which milk is sent?—No.

Milk (Mothers and Children) Order, 1919. Any action?—No.

Other Foods—

Number of samples (other than milk) taken by Officer of S.A. for examination under the Foods and Drugs Acts—Nil.

Number adulterated—Nil.

Number of seizures of unsound food—Nil.

Number of Slaughter-houses—8. Number registered—8. Number licensed—nil. Number unsatisfactory?—Condition of seven fair.

Number of Prosecutions (a) Food and Drugs—Nil; (b) Unsound food—Nil; (c) re Slaughter-houses—Nil.

Number of Bakehouses—7. Is there a Public Abattoir?—No.

Factories and Workshops—

Any Smoke Nuisance, and where?—Yes. Abated after notice.

Number of Smoke Observations taken—17. Number of cautions—5. Legal notices—nil. Summonses—nil.

Acts adopted during 1920—nil.

Adoptive Acts—

Acts adopted during 1920—nil.

Byelaws and Regulations—

Any Bye-Laws made under Section 26 of Housing and Town Planning Act, 1919, as to houses divided into separate tenements—nil.

Any other adopted or revised during 1920—nil.

Any relaxation of Bye-Laws under Section 24 of Housing and Town Planning Act, 1919—nil.

Any other Byelaws needed?—No.

Infectious and other Diseases—

What diseases have been specially prevalent in 1920?—No special prevalence.

Any diseases specially added to notifiable list?—No.

Any influences threatening the health of the district?—No.

Any prevalence of Venereal Diseases?—No.

Tuberculosis—

Procedure after Notification:—

- (1) Inspection of patient's home and workshop—Yes.
- (2) Examination for contacts—Done at Tuberculosis Dispensaries.
- (3) Is house disinfected?—Yes. When?—Immediately after removal of patient.
- (4) Leaflets, lectures, etc., distributed?—Yes.
- (5) Action re spitting—Public Notices.
- (6) Is sputum examined apart from Dispensary?—Yes.
- (7) Any special procedure adopted in cases of Pulmonary Tuberculosis with T.B. in sputum?—Flasks provided.
- (8) Tuberculosis Dispensaries: any suggestions?—The establishment of one at Hebden Bridge, i.e., at a more convenient and central place than either Sowerby Bridge or Todmorden.

Bacteriology—

Is County Laboratory utilised?—Yes.
Any suggestions?—No.

Infant Mortality—

What organised effort to control it?—Visitation by Health Visitor, who is in attendance for first twelve months of life.

Any Voluntary Centres for Child or Mother Welfare?—No.

Causes of any excessive Infant Mortality in 1920—None known.

Vital Statistics—

Births during 1920—Males 62, females 50, total 112.

Number illegitimate included in above—3. Number of still births (not included)—Not known.

Deaths during 1920: (1) Gross Deaths, i.e., total actually registered in the district without any correction—85. (2) Nett deaths on which the rates are calculated—Males 44, females 47.

Number of uncertified deaths (included above)—6.

Mortuaries—

What Mortuary accommodation? (a) For accidents—Mortuary in Lewis Holme. (b) For infectious cases other than at hospital—No.

Sanitary Staff—

What is the present Annual Salary of the Medical Officer of Health?—£67.

Name of Sanitary Inspector—Herbert L. Bottomley. Annual Salary as Inspector—£145. Other appointments held—Engineer and Surveyor. Salary for such other appointments—£290. Any assistants?—No. Is staff sufficient?—Yes.

Clinics.

Any suggestions—

(a) Tuberculosis?—No.

(b) Venereal Disease?—No.

(c) Child Welfare?—No.

(d) Ante-Natal?—One required.

(e) School?—Should be run at separate hours from Maternity and Child Welfare Clinic.

Any Remarks as to—

(a) Voluntary Agencies for social betterment?—Nil.

(b) District Nursing Association?—Excellent work is being done by the two Nurses in Hebden Bridge.

(c) Any Hospital, other than Isolation (Cottage or Dispensary)?—No.

(d) Health Visiting?—Health Visitor appointed by County Council.

(e) School Nursing?—Carried out by Health Visitor.

(f) Tuberculosis Nursing?—Done by Health Visitor.

(g) Dental Nursing?—Nil.

Special Reports and Investigations—

Nil.

Summary of Housing Work during 1920.

Table showing action under Sections 15, 17, and 18 of the Housing, Town Planning etc., Act, 1909, Section 28 of the 1919 Act, and the Housing (Inspection of District) Regulations, dated September 2nd, 1910, or matters arising therefrom.

Houses with defects not disposed of at end of 1919.

Houses not reasonably fit for human habitation (Section 15) 1909, or (Section 28) 1919.—Nil.

Houses totally unfit for human habitation (Section 17) 1909.—Nil.

Houses with minor defects (Public Health Acts).—Several.

Houses inspected under the Act and Regulations in 1919.—Nil.

Houses found satisfactory on inspection.—Nil.

Action under (Section 15) 1919 or (Section 28) 1919.

Houses found not reasonably fit for human habitation.—Nil.

Houses for which notices were given to execute works.—Nil.

Houses in respect of which notices were satisfactorily complied with.—Nil.

Houses in respect of which the Local Authority executed or were executing works in default of landlord.—Nil.

Houses in respect of which landlord elected to close house instead of complying with notices.—Nil.

Action under Public Health Acts in cases of houses with minor defects not remediable under (Section 28) 1919.

Houses found with defects.—Nil.

Houses made fit after preliminary notice.—Nil.

Houses in regard to which notices were served to remedy defects.—Nil.

Houses made fit after notice.—Nil.

Action under (Section 17) 1909.

Houses found to be totally unfit for habitation.—Nil.

Houses represented to Local Authority as being totally unfit for human habitation.—Nil.

Houses made fit for human habitation without the issue of a closing order.—Nil.

Houses closed voluntarily.—Nil.

Houses in respect of which closing orders were made.—Nil.

Houses closed as unfit for human habitation after closing orders were made?—Nil.

Houses made fit for human habitation after closing order was made, for which the Local Authority determined the order.—Nil.

Houses demolished voluntarily.—Nil.

Houses for which demolition orders were made.—Nil.

Houses demolished compulsorily.—Nil.

Appeals.

Appeals against notices under (Section 15) 1909, or (Section 28) 1919.—Nil.

Appeals against closing orders under Section 17, 1909.—Nil.

Appeals under Section 17 (6) 1909, refusing to determine closing orders.—Nil.

Appeals against demolition orders, Section 18 (2) 1919.—Nil.

Houses with defects not disposed of at end of 1920.

Houses not reasonably fit for human habitation (Section 15) 1909, or (Section 28) 1919.—Nil.

Houses with minor defects (Public Health Acts).—Nil.

Houses totally unfit for human habitation (Section 17) 1909.—Nil.

Other Action in regard to Housing.

Total number of Houses in district.—1847.

Number of working-class houses.—1774.

General standard compared with that of the Ministry of Health in Manual Vol. I., 1919.—Not good, but the peculiar contour of the district calls for a different standard than the general standard laid down by the Ministry.

Obstructive Buildings: any building represented by Medical Officer of Health under Section 38 (1) of 1890 Act?—No.

Result of action (if any).—Nil.

Any buildings represented by Inhabitant Householders under Section 38 (2) of 1890 Act?—No.

Unhealthy Areas.—Any representations under Part I. or II. of the 1890 Act?—Nil.

Reconstruction Schemes.—Have Local Authority directed any to be prepared under Section 39 of 1890 Act?—No.

Conversion of Houses.—Any houses required for division into separate tenements, under the 1919 Act?—No.

Unfit Houses.—Any complaints by Inhabitant Householders under Section 31 of 1890 Act?—No.

Any complaints by Parish Council under Section 6 (2) of the Local Government Act, 1894?—No.

Any action by Public Utility Societies?—No.

Any action under Small Dwellings Acquisition Act, 1899?—No.

Any scarcity of houses, if so, where?—Yes, general.

Any overcrowding of persons in houses, and where?—Only one known at present.

Number of cases of overcrowding dealt with during 1920.—One, but unsuccessful on account of scarcity of alternative accommodation.

Any special activity in house building, and where?—No.

Have the Council promoted or assisted any Public Utility Society in their district?—No.

Number of new houses built during 1920 by private enterprise.

(a) Working-class dwellings.—Nil. (b) Other—nil.

STATE-AIDED HOUSING SCHEMES.—Has Scheme been submitted as required by Section 1 of 1919 Act?—Yes. Estimated need for 200 houses. Scheme for 200 houses. Applications submitted and approved: No. 1, acreage 4.219; No. 2, acreage 16.637. Lay-outs submitted and approved, No. 1.

Any houses built by private enterprise under State-aided Housing Scheme? If so, give number and type built.—One in course of erection, Type B.

Any regulations made in respect of underground sleeping-rooms under (Sec. 17, 7) 1909 Act?—No. Any action thereunder?—Nil.

TOWN PLANNING.—Any scheme prepared during 1920?—No. Any scheme contemplated?—No.

Name and address of Officer designated to make inspections under Article II. of Housing (Inspection of District) Regulations, 1910.—Mr. Herbert L. Bottomley, Sandy Gate, Hebden Bridge.

(Signed)

FRANCIS J. DOWDALL, M.B., B.Ch., B.A.O.,

Medical Officer of Health.

Nuisance Inspector's Report.

Council Offices,

Hebden Bridge,

March, 1921.

Gentlemen,—

I beg to present my report as Inspector of Nuisances for the year ending December 31st, 1920:—

SANITARY CONVENIENCES.—The number of pail or tub closets remains at 73, no reduction since my last report. The number of water closets has been increased by 10, nine of these being to houses and one to a factory, the total now being 1628. I am pleased to report that 13 ashes-places have, with the consent of the owners, been closed during the year, and bins or other receptacles substituted.

NUISANCES. — There have been 18 cases where informal notices were served calling upon property-owners to abate nuisances or remove complaints. These notices have been complied with. There were, in addition, two cases where it was necessary to serve statutory notices, only one of which has been complied with.

HOUSE INSPECTION.—The result of my inspections shows that the worst defects discovered were dampness of house walls and defective and untrapped drains. The dampness occurs in those houses erected against the hillside, and appears impossible to cure.

INFECTIOUS DISEASES.—Two cases of Diphtheria, 13 of Scarlet Fever, and one of Enteric have been notified during the year, a total of 16 as against 20 last year. Twelve of the cases were removed to the Hospital for treatment.

SMOKE NUISANCE.—From 17 observations it has been necessary to issue warnings to five firms responsible for the pollution when black smoke was emitted in excess of ten minutes' duration during a period of one hour.

FACTORIES AND WORKSHOPS.—There has been one instance where complaint was made of insufficient and unsatisfactory closet accommodation at a factory.

SLAUGHTER-HOUSES.—During the year the whole of the privately-owned Slaughterhouses have been re-opened, after having been closed temporarily during the war. The method of slaughtering at one centre, such as obtained during the war, is to be preferred to the existing arrangement.

MILK SUPPLY.—Three samples of milk have been taken and analysed for adulteration. In each case the milk proved genuine.

Other premises subject to special regulations have all been regularly inspected and found satisfactory.

I am,

Your obedient servant,

H. L. BOTTOMLEY,

Inspector.

Canal Boat Report.

Council Offices,

Hebden Bridge,

January 6th, 1921.

Gentlemen,—

The number of Canal Boats inspected during the year ending December 31st, 1920, is five, and the whole were found to be kept in accordance with and conformed to the Canal Boats Acts and regulations.

The registered sleeping accommodation was for 22 adults, and the actual number occupying the cabins was 11 men.

During the year no case of fever has been notified on any canal boat within this district, nor has it been necessary to detain any boat for cleansing or disinfection.

Yours obediently,

H. L. BOTTOMLEY,

Inspector.